



For Immediate Release:  
June 21 , 2006

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## **Conyers Applauds Judiciary Committee Demand for Information Regarding Massive NSA Phone Call Databases**

Today, the House Judiciary Committee passed H.Res. 819, calling on the President and the Justice Department to disclose its role in approving massive telephone call databases maintained by the NSA and others. This is the first time a Committee has approved a Resolution of Inquiry demanding information from the Administration this Congress.

The resolution, authored by Representative Robert Wexler (D-FL), requests "all documents in the possession of the President and the Attorney General, including all legal opinions, relating to requests made without a warrant by the National Security Agency or other Federal departments and agencies to telephone service providers, including wireless telephone service providers, for access to telephone communications records of persons in the United States."

"I am pleased that the House Judiciary Committee is exercising its oversight authority and demanding real answers of the Administration," said Ranking Member John Conyers, Jr. "We do not know how trillions of phone call records were obtained, nor how they are being used. And there is no guarantee that this private information will ever be destroyed."

The resolution comes on the heels of last month's revelation by *USA Today* that in addition to conducting warrantless wiretaps, the NSA was also amassing the phone records of innocent Americans, most likely violating federal laws requiring a court order. Officials speaking on the condition of anonymity estimated the collected phone records to run into the trillions.

Chairman F. James Sensenbrenner also supported the bill, noting that the resolution will be put on the House calendar, and subject to a full vote of the House at his discretion, if the Administration refuses to comply.